

Graff

IMPLIMENTS OF

The Newberry Library  
The Everett D. Graff Collection  
of Western Americana

4349

E. A. CARR,

Colonel 6th Cavalry,

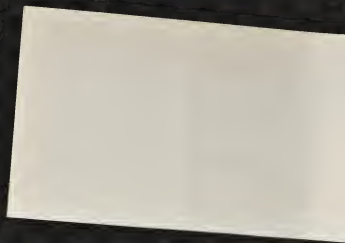
Brevet Major General U. S. Army.

25, I have the honor to report that, pursuant to General Orders No. 97, dated Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, November 14, 1888, Colonel *Grierson* having relinquished command of the district November 24, I assumed the same November 26, 1888, with headquarters at this post, Fort Wingate. I did not relinquish command of the post; but have, during the subsequent period, exercised that, and the command of the Fort Wingate district of observation established by General *Miles* by his Orders No. 34, Headquarters Department of Arizona, 1886.

I have made a number of scouts and expeditions, and familiarized myself with the surrounding country and the neighboring Indians; but have made no railroad trips to different posts in the district.

I have taken great pains to anticipate and prevent troubles; and am happy to state that there have been no outbreaks, and that the Indians in the district are, if anything, in a more peaceable frame than when I arrived and took command of this post, June 22, 1888.

At that time there was great dissatisfaction with the agent of the Navajos and Moquis, and he was undergoing investigation by an Indian inspector. One day *Manuelito*, a noted chief living on the eastern border of the Navajo Reservation, came to the post and asked for an interview with me. He stated that the principal chief *Ganado Mucho* and himself, had determined to



## HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO,

*Fort Wingate, N. M., August 22, 1889.*

SIR: Pursuant to telegram desiring the annual report of the district commander to reach Department headquarters by August 25, I have the honor to report that, pursuant to General Orders No. 97, dated Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, November 14, 1838, Colonel *Grierson* having relinquished command of the district November 24, I assumed the same November 26, 1888, with headquarters at this post, Fort Wingate. I did not relinquish command of the post; but have, during the subsequent period, exercised that, and the command of the Fort Wingate district of observation established by General *Miles* by his Orders No. 34, Headquarters Department of Arizona, 1886.

I have made a number of scouts and expeditions, and familiarized myself with the surrounding country and the neighboring Indians; but have made no railroad trips to different posts in the district.

I have taken great pains to anticipate and prevent troubles; and am happy to state that there have been no outbreaks, and that the Indians in the district are, if anything, in a more peaceable frame than when I arrived and took command of this post, June 22, 1888.

At that time there was great dissatisfaction with the agent of the Navajos and Moquis, and he was undergoing investigation by an Indian inspector. One day *Manuelito*, a noted chief living on the eastern border of the Navajo Reservation, came to the post and asked for an interview with me. He stated that the principal chief *Ganado Mucho* and himself, had determined to

remove the agent and put him on a railroad train. He stated that he had visited the agency and asked the agent why he was not removed; that he had told him he was a thief that he had stolen the money furnished for irrigating their lands, that he had lied to him about furnishing him a harness and repairing his wagon, etc., and that the agent had put <sup>him</sup> ~~me~~ in the guard-house; and "Why should the agent put <sup>me</sup> ~~him~~ in the guard-house for telling him the truth?" After listening to his tale I told him they had better not be hasty; that the Great Father had sent out his inspectors to inquire into the complaints against the agent, but that their reports had to be first examined by the honorable Secretary of the Interior, etc.; that the Great Father was very busy with the great council, having to sit up sometimes till 2 o'clock at night examining papers etc., and that he would no doubt attend to the business as soon as he could get time. *Manuelito* answered "My brother, I think you are my friend, and I will take your advice." I of course sent an express to the agent offering him protection if necessary, and telegraphed the facts to department headquarters. I have since learned that this was not an idle threat; a former Navajo agent was by them mounted on a donkey and marched off the reservation. Since then the agent has been replaced by Mr. *C. E Vandever*, who is very popular both with the Navajos and the neighboring citizens.

During this early period there was much complaint that Navajos brought whisky on to the reservation, purchased outside. The agent was not able to arrest the culprits and asked for my assistance. I sent August 25, 1888, Sergeant *Samuel Murdock*, Troop A, Sixth Cavalry, with eight enlisted men and one scout. While in camp at Cañon de Chelly Indian runners advised him not to go further, stating that there was a large band of Navajos ready to resist him. He, however, went on, was joined by the police, and arrived next day at the store at Chinlee

where they found about a hundred Indians mounted and armed, saying there were more beyond, and threatening to resist the arrest of the whisky-sellers. The chief of the Indian police decided that as they had only sixteen men all told it was better not to provoke a collision, and returned to the agency.

About that time I was ordered by General *Miles* to place a troop of Cavalry at the agency, and Captain *Robert Hanna*, with his troop I, Sixth Cavalry, spent the month of September in camp at Defiance. Most of the whisky-sellers came in and surrendered and received only a reprimand from the agent. I have heard but little more of whisky being brought onto the reservation; but much of its sale to Indians by people near the borders. A citizen was brought before the court by the present agent for selling whisky to Navajos, but the prosecution failed.

There is no pretense of keeping the Navajos on their reservation, and in fact some have been living off its limits for many years, notably the chief *Ganada Mucho*, and the wealthy ranchero *Cavallo Pinto*. I found several families living on the Fort Wingate military reservation who said they had resided in the same place since their return from Bosque Redondo, twenty years ago. Their sheep, goats, and ponies, and their fields of corn, etc., were troublesome, but I have about got rid of them after a year's forbearance. I do not feel authorized in the absence of orders to interfere with those living off their reservation, on the public lands. General *Grierson* in his last annual report recommended that their reservation be extended.

Shortly after my arrival here I received a visit from a man who I afterwards learned was known as "*Old man Patterson*," of Sorocco County. He complained that he had been robbed by Navajos while passing across their reservation—that they had taken his animals, arms and provisions and left him afoot. I told him that their agent was the proper person to receive such

complaints; but after further conversation I found that he was, when robbed, off the usual route of travel, and that his principal object was to interest me in the discovery of the celebrated Lost Mine called the Adams Mine. It is stated that one *Adams*, with a few companions, found, about 1865, a mine or placer of wonderful richness, with nuggets of fabulous size scattered along a ravine. His companions were killed by the Navajos, who seem to be determined that no white man shall know of the mine, and he was badly frightened and afterward became insane. Mr. *Patterson* insisted that *Adams* had given him such a description of the country that he could find it, and that he was near the location and had commenced recognizing landmarks when he was stopped by the Navajos. Mr. *Patterson* subsequently organized a party, which started in September from Gallup into the Navajo Reservation. The members became scattered and returned to their homes, except one named *Benjamin Swift*, whose body was found on the reservation. General *Miles* offered a reward of \$100 for the murderer, and he was brought in and is waiting trial by the civil court. The mine is still a subject of speculation, and no doubt other attempts will be made to find it; but it appears that when parties reach a certain region on the Navajo Reservation they are turned back or killed.

In March I was directed to name a suitable officer to survey the Navajo Reservation for purposes of irrigation. I nominated Second Lieutenant *John M. Stotsenburg*, Sixth Cavalry, and he has since April 1st been engaged in that duty, being furnished with transportation and assistants from this post. He has reconnoitered and surveyed a great part of the reservation, and made a number of maps and plans for dams, reservoirs and ditches, which have been forwarded.

November 16, 1888, I received orders to send a judicious officer to remove all Navajos trespassing on the Moqui Reservation.

These orders were accompanied by papers from the Interior Department, and founded on a report from Mr. *Herbert Welch*, secretary of the Indian Rights Commission, which stated that the Navajos had been imposing outrageously upon the Moquis. I got ready at once a party under Captain *W. M. Wallace*, Sixth Cavalry, but as inclement weather was upon us and the Navajos had built their hogans and settled for the winter. I telegraphed to department headquarters that it would be cruel to evict them at this season, when it would be most difficult for them to remove with their families and flocks and herds and make new settlements, and in fact there were no places where they could settle. General *Miles* authorized me to refrain from moving those who had been living where they were for years, and Captain *Wallace* only removed such as had lately encroached on the Moquis, and were living near their villages, and warned the others not to impose upon the Moquis. Captain *Wallace's* command suffered greatly from snow, etc. There were no crops growing at that time, and the Moqui sheep, goats, etc., were grazing near home. The Navajos no doubt bully and bulldoze the Moquis, take their peaches, melons and corn, and beat them when they remonstrate. The Moquis are a mild and inoffensive people, and should be protected; but it is for the agent to designate where the Navajos shall settle, and then, if necessary, call on the President for military assistance to remove them. The Moquis had on the 17th instant their quadrennial snake dance, a disgusting ceremony, of which this may be the last exhibition. They, as well as the Zunis, seem to regard the rattlesnake with particular veneration. All these Indians have superstitions, myths, and traditions which extend back into the mists of antiquity. Some are most wonderful and interesting. I have been inclined to think that *Cushing* and others had drawn upon

their imagination, but am more and more satisfied that half has not been told.

The Indians in New Mexico are fairly industrious; they all do some farming, raising wheat, corn, beans, squash, pumpkins, chili, melons, peaches, etc., also sheep, goats, ponies, and some cattle. Many of them have good wagons and teams, though they have difficulty in breaking their ponies to work in harness. The Navajo blankets are widely known. Curiously the finest are made from yarns raveled out from flannels purchased from the traders. All spin coarser yarns and make blankets for their own use from their own sheep. There are also artisans in all the bands, who make bracelets, beads, etc., of silver and gold.

I cannot refrain from here expressing my opinion that the true way to advance the Indians is to foster and encourage the industries in which they already take an interest, introducing new ones very gradually, confining their education to the most elementary branches and imparting it to them at home, except perhaps in cases of a few individuals who show marked abilities. Let there be faithful and honest agents, who should be better paid; let them have sufficient assistance, and let them build from the bottom on the foundation of industry, economy, morality, and sobriety, and the Indian will advance as rapidly and as far as his undoubtedly inferior capacity will allow. I have had a number of Navajos employed here at different times, and they prove good workers.

By the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo all inhabitants were made citizens, and the Indians may have the right to vote; but it is rarely if ever exercised.

The Zuñis, whose reservation lies southwest of this post, have been as usual peaceable and industrious. On the morning of May 9th I was awakened by messengers from the governor, who sent word that three white men had been found driving off Zuñi



horses, and that when followed they had killed three Zunis and retreated to the S. Ranch, about twenty miles from here, where he had them surrounded. I immediately sent Second Lieutenant *J. J. Pershing*, Sixth Cavalry, with ten men to bring them to this post, which he did without trouble, except some palavering. The Zunis, about 150 in number, who had besieged the ranch since the previous afternoon, were greatly excited, but allowed the men to be brought through without molestation. They had then mortally wounded another Zuni. During the siege the Zunis had killed a horse belonging to the Cibollo Cattle Company, whose employes took no part in the fight. I placed the robbers in the guard-house and telegraphed the sheriff of the county and the Pueblo Indian agent. One escaped, but the other two were taken to Los Lunas, where after a cursory examination they were discharged. I cannot help believing that this result was due to the inefficiency of the prosecution by the Indian agent, who has since been removed. The newspapers got it that these men were cowboys, which was a great injustice to a class of men whom I find to be most laborious, industrious, sober and honest. While their occupation requires them to live on the extreme frontiers, to be out night and day in all weathers, and to take many desperate chances, they are far from being the lawless desperadoes described in sensational writings. Outlaws like those above referred to are likely to go among them for concealment, and shoulder upon the cowboys the responsibility for their crimes.

As I have not visited other posts, and in fact am not expected to take any control of their internal economy or discipline, I make no report concerning the troops in the district except the accompanying abstracts, viz, A, B, C, D and E (omitted).

First Lieutenants *Louis A. Craig*, adjutant Sixth Cavalry, acting assistant adjutant general, and *E. H. Plummer*, regi-

mental quartermaster, Tenth Infantry, acting assistant quartermaster and acting assistant commissary of subsistence, have borne the burden of the staff duties of the district in addition to those of their regiments and posts, and are entitled to especial credit for their able and faithful performance of the same.

The department rifle competition has been held here with the best average scores, which have been published. The carbine and pistol competition is just commencing. I have given every possible facility, and we have tried to make our visitors comfortable and their stay pleasant. The Cavalry competition closed August 31st. They made the highest scores known.

In looking over the records in the headquarters office, I am struck with the names of men prominent before and since the war, as well as those not so celebrated, but whose memories are dear to many of us who are still on praying ground.

On the register, which commences with October, 1854, I find, *Andrew Jackson*, lodging with Major *Brooks*; *S. D. Sturgis*, lodging with General *Garland*; *J. L. McFerron*, *A. McD. McCook*. I escorted General *Garland* in 1853 from Fort Leavenworth as far as Council Grove, where the command was waiting under *Electus Backus*, and remember *McCook* singing songs with a lot of jolly fellows in a tent that evening; *B. L. Ewell*, *Charles Sutherland*, *Cary H. Fry*, *George Sykes*, *John D. Wilkins*, *Henry B. (Joler) Davidson*, *R. W. (Bob) Johnston*, *H. L. Kendrick*, whose reminiscences of Fort Defiance are so vivid, and who no doubt recalls the Ojo del Oso, which fixes the location of this post; *W. R. Shoemaker*, *George Gibson*, *Robert Williams*, *D. H. Rucker*, *H. B. Clitz*, *B. J. D. Irwin*, *W. N. Grier* (bueno comandante), *J. H. Carleton*, *John Adams*, *C. H. Ogle*, *Jonas P. Holliday* (bueno teniente), *Enoch Steen* and *A. E. Steen*, *Elmer Otis*, *W. D. Pender*, *D. McM. Gregg*, *W. W. Loring*, *Julian May*, *Roger Jones*, *J.*

*H. Edson, J. R. Smead, W. B. Lane, Lewellyn Jones, A. J. Lindsay, G. B. Crittenden, W. L. Elliott, Alexander (General) McRae*, who was killed at Valverde, and had said the evening previous that he had nothing to live for, his family having disowned him on account of his adherence to the Union, *John P. Hatch, R. M. Morris, Andrew Porter, James Longstreet, John G. Walker*, my old captain, a perfect soldier and gentleman (I had been promoted out of the regiment of mounted riflemen in 1855, before it came to this Territory, where it gained great distinction in Indian warfare); *Orrin Chapman, Jonathan Litterman, William D. Whipple, Fred Myers. John Pope, J. G. Lee, George B. Cosby*, who had a \$20 gold piece, commissary money, in his pocket when an Indian arrow struck it; *Johnny Dubois, Thomas Duncan, T. G. Pitcher, George E. Pickett, B. Wingate*, afterwards killed and for whom this post is named; *Alex. Chambers, John D. Marmaduke, Basil Norris, John Pegram, Will Kearney, J. G. Tilford, Albert J. Myer, A. L. Anderson, R. H. Hall*, our present inspector; *L. L. Rich*, and many others, the register continuing through different changes of the command up to the present time.

I find from the interesting history published by our present distinguished governor, Hon. *L. Bradford Prince*, that New Mexico was visited by *Cabeza de Vaca* with three others in 1535, and by *Marcos de Niza* in 1539, and was invaded in 1541 by the Spaniards under *Coronado*, who came by the way of Sonora, Mexico, seeking for the "seven cities of Cibola," which were those of the *Zuñis, Moquis, Accomacs*, and others in this neighborhood.

It was gradually conquered, and occupied with varying fortunes till 1680, when the natives revolted and drove the Spaniards back to El Paso; but they reconquered it in 1692.

There is, about 35 miles south of here, a sandstone bluff called "El Moro," or Inscription Rock. It is near the road traveled by the Spaniards from Zuni to Accomac, which was on the regular route from Sonora to Santa Fé. On it are inscribed numerous names of travelers. Some date as far back as 1606. There is one dated 1526, but it must be incorrect. They comprise governors, generals, judges, archbishops, merchants, etc., Spanish and American. It was no doubt passed by the Franciscan friar, *Marcos de Niza*, in 1539, and it gives rise to curious feelings to look at the names of historical personages and others, and consider the procession of people who have traveled that road for three hundred and fifty years. In front of it is a patch of malpais, or lava, of several miles in extent with well defined craters, such as are frequent all over this region and have been active since the country has been inhabited, as ears of corn have been found partly charred in blocks of lava, and near Grant's Station on the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad the lava has flowed around and into an adobe hut.

New Mexico was first reduced to United States possession in 1846, by General *Kearney*, who appointed *Charles Bent* to be governor, and, among others, Colonel *Doniphan* and *Willard P. Hall* to prepare a code of laws, and *Francis P. Blair* to be United States district attorney.

With the Army were *P. St. George Cooke*, who commanded the Mormon battalion since so distinguished both in arms and letters; *E. V. Sumner*, of national reputation; Colonels *Doniphan* and *Sterling Price*, and *Wm. B. Royall*.

Colonel *Doniphan* visited the Navajos, brought them together at this place, and made a treaty with them about December 1, 1846.

The Mexicans revolted in 1847, killing Governor *Bent* and others, but were put down by Colonel *Sterling Price* in four

battles, in which, among others distinguished, were Lieutenant *Dyer*, afterward Chief of Ordnance, Lieutenant *Royall* and others.

The first United States military commander here was of course General *Stephen W. Kearney*; the next, Colonel *Doniphan*; the next, *Sterling Price*. Subsequently the command was exercised by the following distinguished officers. The records are deficient, but I remember that *E. V. Sumner* was sent out in 1850, with a large quantity of stock, seeds, and farming utensils, with the idea of making the troops self supporting.

General *Garland* came out in 1853; Colonels *Bonneville* and *Loring* commanded about 1857. General *Canby* was in command when the rebellion commenced, in 1861.

NAME.	YEAR.
General Carleton.....	1864-'66.
General Getty.....	1867-'69.
General Granger.....	1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, and 1875.
General Gregg.....	1871, 1874, and 1878.
General Hatch.....	1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, and 1881.
General Mackenzie.....	1882, and 1883.
General Stanley.....	1883 and 1884.
General Bradley.....	1884, 1885, and 1886.
Colonel Swaine.....	1885.
General Grierson.....	1886, 1887, 1888.

The future of New Mexico depends on the water question. This requires judicious and comprehensive action, to deal with the various waters, particularly of the Rio Grande, which is taxed by local irrigation and wasted, or at least not utilized to the best advantage, so that the bed is sometimes dry, or nearly so, as it is now in several places. The water is unquestionably deficient in this Territory; but much more land might be brought under the plow by a judicious system and rigid economy.

The cattle interest has in some places overstocked the areas where water is to be had. In marching from Fort Bayard to

Fort Wingate, in June, 1888, I found most of the cattle with the hides clinging to their bones, and considerable numbers dead in the sloughs, where they had mired, when trying to drink, or to eat the green grass and weeds. The grass was so eaten down near every watering place that the horses of my command could get nothing worth mentioning, and whenever I found good grass it was certain that there was no water nearer than 6 or 7 miles, which is as far as cattle can go regularly for drinking and grazing.

When the grass is eaten so closely, sometimes into the ground, the roots are liable to be killed, leaving no further supply or being followed by innutritious weeds. Many cattle died last winter. The ground near the water-holes and springs is most offensive, from the droppings of the cattle, ponies, goats, and sheep, and fuel is usually scarce. And in this connection it would be advantageous to provide water kegs or barrels for troops on the march and to water the animals, and fill kegs during the day, and encamp where there is grass and fuel and where the ground is clean.

I also feel impelled to say that troops in this department should be more liberally provided with transportation and tentage on ordinary marches. All other departments in which I have served are better provided than this. The climate is supposed to be so mild that little shelter is required; but there is usually a great difference in the temperature between day and night, the sun is very hot, requiring shade, and exposure to the night air is liable to bring chills and fever; besides, the wind frequently comes, in gusts or steady gales, bringing clouds of dust; and, in addition, decent men do not wish to wear their clothes all day and all night, for many days and nights in succession, nor to dress and undress in full view of the whole command. Of course, all are ready and eager to march in the lightest

order when on a trail, but my experience is, that, with proper management, soldiers never need to be long away from their wagons.

Returning to the material interests of the Territory, I will add that the native people are sober, frugal and industrious, and the educated among them and the American settlers form a superior body of men. All Latin races and all persons in a hot climate are supposed to take life easier than those who have to struggle with severe cold; but New Mexico is not so hot as some portions of the Union, and I think there is plenty of work in its inhabitants, and that it is the making of a prosperous State.

The country is practicable for railroads in almost every directions. The mountains and cañons look forbidding, but there is always a way to get around, across, or through them. In my opinion it would not be difficult to construct a railroad from north of the San Juan, near Farmington, south to Silver City, N. M., or Clifton, Ariz., thus connecting Durango and Deming.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

E. A. CARR,

Colonel 6th Cavalry,

Brevet Major-General,

Commanding.

The ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL,

*Headquarters Department of Arizona,*

*Los Angeles, Cal.*

